

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-25 (Canceled)

Claims 26-48 (Canceled)

49. (Currently amended) A wireless picture messaging system in which a picture is sent from a message originator having a telephone number to a message recipient having a wireless portable communication device, comprising:

a message center;

a picture message input device for use by the message originator for generating a message including a picture to be transmitted to the message center from a message originator;

a receiver-operably coupled to the message center for receiving and storing in a memory both message originator information provided automatically by a communications network as the caller ID identifying the telephone number of the message originator, and a picture obtained from the message originator with the caller ID;

a wireless portable communication device for receiving wireless signals from the message center; and,

a transmitter for wirelessly transmitting the stored caller ID and the stored picture from the message center to the wireless portable communication device.

50. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 49, wherein the picture includes at least one of:

iconographic image data;

logo image data;

photographic image data;

video image data;

image data representative of a calling party; and

other graphic image data.

51. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 49, wherein the picture message input device includes a video telephone and the message includes a video telephone message, and wherein the picture includes video image data.

52. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 49, wherein the picture message input device includes a personal computer.

53. (Currently amended) A system according to claim 49, wherein at least a part of the message is encoded and wherein the wireless portable communication device includes a decoder for decoding the encoded message.

54. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 49, wherein the message includes optional data.

55. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 49, further comprising at least one of:

a compression algorithm for compressing at least part of the message prior to storage in the memory; and

a compression algorithm for compressing at least part of the message prior to transmission to the wireless portable communication device.

56. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 49, wherein the caller ID includes caller identifying data associated with the message.

57. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 56, wherein the transmitter that wirelessly transmits the caller ID and the picture is operably connected to transmit the picture and caller ID based on the caller identifying data.

58. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 49, and further including an encryption algorithm for encrypting the picture, and wherein the transmitter transmits the encrypted picture to the wireless portable communication device.

59. (Canceled)

60. (Canceled)

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69. (Canceled)

70. (Canceled)

71. (Cancel)

72. (Canceled)

73. (Canceled)

74. (Previously presented) A wireless picture messaging system according to claim 49, wherein the memory comprises a hard disk drive.

75. (Previously presented) A wireless picture messaging system according to claim 49, wherein the picture is stored at the message center for later retrieval by the message recipient.

76. (Canceled)

77. (Previously presented) A wireless picture messaging system according to claim 49, wherein at least a part of the message is compressed prior to at least one of (a) storing the message in the memory and (b) forwarding the message.

78. (Canceled)

79. (Canceled)

80. (Canceled)

81. (Previously presented) A wireless picture messaging system according to claim 49, wherein the wireless communication network includes at least one of:

- a cellular telephone system;
- a wireless communication system; and
- a radio telephone system.

82. (Previously presented) A wireless picture messaging system according to claim 49, wherein the message center device includes one of:

- a telephone answering system;
- a video telephone answering system;
- a computer;
- a voice messaging system; and
- a video messaging system.

83. (Canceled)

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99. (Cancel)

100. (Previously presented) A wireless picture messaging system according to claim 49, wherein the memory comprises a hard disk drive.

101. (Previously presented) A wireless picture messaging system according to claim 49, wherein the picture is stored at the message center for later retrieval by the message recipient.

102. (Previously presented) A wireless picture messaging system according to claim 49, wherein the message is compressed prior to at least one of (a) storing the message in the memory and (b) forwarding the message.

103. (Previously presented) A wireless picture messaging system according to claim 49, wherein the wireless picture messaging system includes a wireless communications network and wherein the wireless communication network includes at least one of:

a cellular telephone system;

a wireless communication system; and

a radio telephone system.

104. (Previously presented) A wireless picture messaging system according to claim 49, wherein the message center includes one of:

a telephone answering system;

a video telephone answering system;

a computer;

a voice messaging system; and

a video messaging system.